

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )  
DANA D. BRANHAM, ET AL. )  
Application Number: Unassigned )  
Filed: Unassigned )  
Title: LINKAGE ASSEMBLY RESTRAINT )  
Attorney Docket No.: 02-418 )

Peoria, Illinois 61629-6490

November 10, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

The following information and attached material are submitted for the Examiner's consideration relative to one or more of the claims in the above-identified application. A PTO 1449 (SB08) form and a copy, if required, of each item listed thereon are attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Todd A. Benni  
Registration No. 42,313  
Caterpillar Inc.

Telephone: (309) 675-4280  
TAB:vlm  
Enc.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

|   |                        |                          |                        |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO   |                        | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |                        | Application Number       | (Unassigned)           |
|   |                        | Filing Date              | (Herewith)             |
|   |                        | First Named Inventor     | Dana D. Branham ET AL. |
|   |                        | Art Unit                 | (Unassigned)           |
|   |                        | Examiner Name            | (Unassigned)           |
| Sheet 2 of 2  | Attorney Docket Number | 02-418                   |                        |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number<br>Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                       | US- 5,152,659   | 10-6-1992                      | Waka   |   |
|                       |                       | US- 5,169,277   | 12-8-1992                      | Orser et al  |   |
|                       |                       | US- 5,210,997   | 5-18-1993                      | Mountcastle, Jr.                                   |   |
|                       |                       | US- 5,292,220   | 3-8-1994                       | Cartner  |   |
|                       |                       | US- 5,341,629   | 8-30-1994                      | Penner   |   |
|                       |                       | US- 5,419,104   | 5-30-1995                      | Higdon   |   |
|                       |                       | US- 5,435,117   | 7-25-1995                      | Eggena   |   |
|                       |                       | US- 5,794,852   | 8-18-1998                      | Wald et al.  |   |
|                       |                       | US- 5,850,704   | 12-22-1998                     | Harinen  |   |
|                       |                       | US- 5,967,737   | 10-19-1999                     | Kraske et al.                                      |   |
|                       |                       | US- 6,336,565   | 1-8-2002                       | Merkel et al.                                      |   |
|                       |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |
|                       |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |
|                       |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |
|                       |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |
|                       |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |
|                       |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |
|                       |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |
|                       |                       | US-   |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document<br>Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |                       |  |                                |  |   |                |

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at: [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.